

Abstract

5 The present invention discloses a method and apparatus for rerouting high-speed telecommunications signals within a network element (NE). Data circuits are defined as the interface cards within the NE that receive a particular data stream. In the event that one or more of the interface cards associated with a particular data circuit is removed, the NE can reroute the data stream so that the data circuit is maintained. The rerouting is
10 accomplished by creating a stitching table, which defines the previous stitch and next stitch for each port on a cross-connect unit. Thus, when one stitch is lost, the table enables the apparatus to reroute the data stream around the lost stitch. That is, the data circuit is stitched together when one or more
15 elements of the data circuit are removed.

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